NUMB. 275

The Daily Gazetteer.

FRIDAY, MAY 14 1736.

No. 275.

It being thought very consistent with the Title of this Paper, and conducive to establish it in the Favour of the Publick, to inform them now and then of the State of the Foreign Courts *and* Cities *from which our Intelligence arrives, and of the* Characters *of the principal* Ministers *and* Courtiers; *we shall now venture upon an Essay of that kind, to be continued, as Room shall admit of it, in future Papers.*

THE first Scene we shall open with, is a Country, which, at this Time especially, most naturally attracts the Curiosity of an Englishman,

The Dutchy of SAXE GOTHA.

It lies in Upper Saxony, with the Dominions of HesseCassel on the W. the Dutchy of Saxe Eysenach on the N. that of Weimar on the E. and Franconia on the S.

According to the *Atlas Historique*, in which there is a very large Tree of the House of Saxony, the *Titles* of the Dukes of *Saxe Gotha* (who are of the Ernestine Branch of Saxony, and descended from John Frederick the *Magnanimous*) are Dukes of Saxony, Juliers, Cleves, Engers, and Westphalia; Landgraves of Thuringia; Margraves of Misnia; Counts and Princes of Henneberg; Counts of La Marck and Ravensperg; Lords of Ravenstein, Tonna, &c. And their Dominions are those of Gotha, the three Lordships of Tonna, Wachsenburg, and Ichtershausen; the Bailywick and Town of Kranichfeld; the Bishoprick of Valckenrad, Altenbourg, and several other Towns. Moreover, the Dominions both of Weimar and Eysenach are ready to fall very soon into this Family, by reason that the Duke of Saxe Eysenach, who is become next Heir to the Dominions of the Duke of Weimar, upon the Death of his Son the young Prince in 1732, has no Children; and the Duke of Weimar himself is not like to have any more Issue to succeed him, he having such an Aversion to the Repetition of Matrimony, to which he has been often sollicited by his Subjects, that he hates to hear it mentioned.

The first Prince of the Ernestine Line, who was Great Grandfather to the present Duke of Saxe Gotha, was Ernest III. surnamed the *Pious* (seventh Son of John 2d Duke of Weimar) who, says *Schouartus*, excelled all the Princes that ever lived, in Probity, Religion, Prudence, Policy, Industry, and Oeconomy: So that the Divine Promise was fulfilled in him, *Seek first the Kingdom of God, and the Righteousness thereof, and all other Things, shall be added.* This Prince was born Dec. 25. 1601, and was at the Battle of Lutzen in 1641, with Gustavus Adolphus; as was also his eleventh Brother Bernard (commonly called the *Brave Duke* of Weimar) one of the greatest Generals of that Age, and to whose Valour, after the Death of Gustavus, who fell in that Battle, the Victory was chiefly attributed. After this, Ernest and his Brother William agreed to divide the Estate, whereby Gotha fell to the Share of Ernest. In 1660 he obtained a great Part of the County of Hennelberg; and upon the Death of his Brother Frederick William, inherited Altenburg and Coburg in 1672. He re-built the Castle of Gotha, and died March 26. 1675, aged 74, having had 18 Children by his Wife Elizabeth Sophia, Daughter of the Duke John Philip of Saxe Altenburg. — His Son and Successor, and the first Duke of Saxe Gotha, within the Memory, I may say, of the present Generation, was

Frederick I. born the 15th of July 1646. He had two Wives. By the first, who was Magdalen Sybilla, the Daughter of the Duke of Saxe Hall, and who died Jan. 7. 1681, he had a numerous Issue. But his second Wife, who was the Widow of Albert Margrave of Brandenburg Anspach, Grandfather of the present Queen of Great Britain, and Daughter of Frederick VI. Margrave of Baden Dourlach, died without Issue. This Duke and his Father are recorded to have been the great Friends and Patrons of the learned Lewis de Seckendorf (from whom the present valiant Count of that Name is descended) who did so much Service both to his Country and the Republick of Letters, by his Writings. This Duke Frederick died of an Apoplexy the 2d of August 1691, in the 46th Year of his Age, and was succeeded by the late Duke,

Frederick II. Knight of the Orders of the Elephant and Black Eagle, who was born July 28. 1676, and married Magdalen Augusta of the House of Anhalt Zerbst, who was born October 2. 1679, by whom he had the following Issue, viz.

1. Sophia, born May 30. 1697, died November 25. 1713.
2. Frederick III. the present Duke, born April 4. 1699, and married the 6th of September 1729, to his Cousin German Louisa Dorothy of Saxe Meinungen, who was born July 30. 1710, and is a most amiable Princess.
3. William, some time an Officer in the Dutch Service, born March 1. 1701.
4. Charles Frederick, born September 9. 1702, died November 10. 1703.
5. John Augustus, born February 6. 1704.
6. Christiana, born and died in February 1705.
7. Christian William, born May 17. 1706.
8. Lewis Ernest, born December 18. 1707.
9. Immanuel, born March 25. 1709, died March 30. 1710.
10. Maurice, born April 30. 1711.
11. Sophia, born August 13. died November 1. 1712.
12. Charles, born April 6. died June 29. 1715.
13. Frederica, *Dutchess of Saxe Weissenfels*, born July 6. 1715.
14. Magdalen Sybilla, born August 4. died Novem. 8. 1718.
15. Her Royal Highness AUGUSTA Princess of Wales, born November 18. 1719, married April 27, 1736, to the Prince of Wales.
16. John Adolphus, born May 7. 1721.

The late Duke had a gallant Brother, named William, who was killed the 4th of April 1707. O. S. at the Siege of Toulon, where he signalized his Bravery to such a Degree, as deserves particular Mention.

It being his Turn that Day to command in the Works as Lieutenant General of the Emperor, the Queen of Great Britain, and the States General, he was attacked on all Sides, with great Fury, by the French, whom, tho' five to one, he received very bravely; but his Men being overpowered by Numbers, fell into some Disorder: Whereupon the General put them into Order again, and animating them, both by his Presence and his Words, led them on valiantly to the Enemy, with whom they fought like Lyons; but his Troops being broke a second Time, and the Prince finding his Efforts to rally them once more did not avail, he turned to 30 Men, most Officers, who stuck to him, and said, *Friends, 'tis more honourable to perish here, than to have it said,* THE PRINCE OF SAXE GOTHA *was beaten out of his Works.* Presently after his Highness receiving a Shot under the Left Eye, thro' his Head, and another in his Body, dropped dead on the Ground; upon which his Corpse being opened, his Bowels were buried in the Field of Battle, and his Body sent, by Way of Genoa, to Gotha, where it was interred in the Tomb of the Family. Such was his Highness's great Courage and excellent Conduct, that he was lamented by all Persons high and low.

That brave Prince had, one would think, some secret Boding of his Death, if we may judge by the Conclusion of a Letter he wrote the Day before it, to the States General, where he desired them to consider the Handful of Men he had under his Command, that they might be some time recalled; *which*, said he, *is the last Favour I desire of your High Mightinesses.*

A Person of Honour * who was at this Court in the Time of the late Duke, gives the following Account of his Court and Ministry, which will serve to convey some Idea of the present State of Saxe Gotha, under the Administration of his Son the present Duke, Brother to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales.

As of all the Saxon Princes of the Ernestine Branch, the Duke of Saxe Gotha is the most Powerful, so of all the Courts of Saxony, next to Dresden, his is the most numerous and the most magnificent: Nevertheless the Subjects of Saxe-Gotha are the least burden'd with Taxes of any State in Germany. To that Prince's wise Management of his Finances, is owing not only his own Happiness, but that of his People, who perfectly adore him; for indeed he treats them more like a Father than a Sovereign, and never makes them sensible of his Power, but when he is to do them Justice. He is a kind, good-natur'd Master, easy of Access, regular in his Manners, gives great Application to the Affairs of his Government, loves Reading, understands Books, and is ignorant of nothing that a Prince ought to know. As to the Air of his Person, he is handsome and well set. He is civil, but reserved, and seldom speaks to such as are unknown to him, more than Needs must: He aims to know those thoroughly who have Business with him, and when he has found out their Character, he talks to them on such Subjects as he judges they are best acquainted with. He is very regular in his manner of Living: He rises constantly at 7 o'Clock, and after spending an Hour in Prayer, and the reading of some pious Treatise, he dresses himself and gives Audience to his Ministers and other Persons that want to speak with him. He dines at Noon with the Dutchess his Consort, the Princes his Children, and other Persons of Distinction, and after having sat about an Hour and Half at Table, takes a Walk in the Gardens of his Palace; or if the Weather does not permit, retires to his Closet, and amuses himself with reading till 5 o'Clock. Then he repairs to the House of some or other of his Courtiers, where there is an Assembly of all the Nobility, and after having there diverted himself at the Game of Ombre, returns to the Palace, sups in the Manner that he din'd, and at 9 o'Clock retires.

There is a Drawing Room at his Court three Times a Week, when the Company meet in a grand Room, and make Parties at Ombre and Piquet. At 7 o'Clock, a great Table is spread, which is free for all the Company, where a Carver not only cuts up for that, but all the Gaming Tables, which are spread with Napkins; and those who do not play, sit down at what Table they like best; but the Duke, Dutchess and the Princes, are generally so complaisant as to admit Foreigners to their Table. During Supper, there is a Concert of Musick, and at 9 o'Clock all the Company retires.

The present Duke who succeeded to the Dominions of Saxe-Gotha, by the Death of his Father on the 12th of March 1732, has been in France, Italy, England, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, and at all the Courts of Germany, and thereby stor'd himself with such useful Knowledge, and acquir'd such a Character, that it was then foreseen the Subjects of Gotha would be as happy under his Government, as they were under his Father's.

The Duke has all the Great Officers of State that are common to Sovereign Princes. The Count de Ronaw was Grand Marshal in the late Duke's Time, and as it was said, his chief Favourite, tho' he had a Quality not very peculiar to Favourites, of being a true and constant Friend to those who profess'd a Friendship for him.

The Revenues of the late Duke were computed at a Million of Crowns per Annum, with which he kept on Foot near 3000 Men of Regular Troops. His Guards were well cloathed, his Liveries rich, his Tables serv'd with more Elegance than Profusion; his Palace well furnished, his Officers punctually paid, and every Body pleased.

Upon his Death, the Dutchess Dowager retired with the Princesses her Daughters to Altenbourg, and his Brothers went into the Service of the Emperor, the King of Poland, and the Prince of Hesse Cassel.

The present Duke, who follows the Steps of his Illustrious Father, was pleased to appoint M. Backover his Chancellor and the President of his Council; M. de Hering (who is of a noble Family in the Country of Anhalt Cothen, and was formerly in the Service of the Duke [of Saxe Weimar) his Vice-Chancellor. The Count de Ronaw was sent his Envoy to the [illegible]

* *The Author, from whom a great Part of what follows is taken, is a German Baron, by Name and Title,* Charles Lewis, *Baron of* Pollnitz, *who has been at most of the Courts of Europe, was in* 1732 *at Gotha, and last Summer at Berlin, where General Bork, to whom he is related, made him known to his Prussian Majesty, who being informed that the Baron had, by his Travels, very much reduced his Fortune, sent for him to Court, settled a Pension of a thousand Crowns upon him, and then made him one of his Chamberlains, with an Addition of* 500 *Crowns per Annum, which makes his Pension* 1500 *Crowns, or* 300 *l. Sterling.*

Ratisbon, and M. de Damnitz, heretofore in the Service of the Prince of Rudelſtadt, and who was alſo a Major General, was appointed his Grand Marſhal.

Gotha, the Capital City of this Dutchy, in Longitude 30. 40. Latitude 51. 2. ſtands on the Leina, about 18 Miles S. W. from Erfurt, and the ſame Diſtance E. from Eyſenach, in a fine Corn Country, but ſo level, that in Rainy Weather the Roads are ſo bad, that 'tis ſometimes a Day's Journey to reach to Erfurt. The Town being ſituate in the Midſt of a fine Fertile Plain, and the Duke's Caſtle or Palace on a Hill that ſtands by itſelf, from the Appartments of the latter there is a Proſpect of a vaſt Extent. Gotha was only a mean Village till 964, when it was fortified by William Archbiſhop of Mentz, with a Caſtle, &c. which being demoliſhed by the Emperor Maximilian II. in 1567, was afterwards re-built by Erneſt Duke of Gotha, ſurnam'd the *Pious*, who made it one of the largeſt in Germany, and cauſed both the Caſtle and City to be encompaſſed with Ditches and Ramparts: And it muſt be added to his Honour, that he undertook and finiſhed thoſe great Works, at a Time when Germany was ſo impoveriſh'd by inteſtine Wars, that few of its Princes were able to erect Palaces.

The chief Trade of this Town is in Woad, of which they have three Sorts. The firſt they ſow about Chriſtmaſs, the next in the Spring, Summer and Harveſt, of which they have three Crops; the third grows wild. This Herb is ſuch a ſoveraign Balſamick, that it cures Wounds almoſt with a Touch, if taken in Time. It reſembles Plantain, but has a longer Leaf. The Roots fatten and improve barren Ground exceedingly, and being brought over to England with Clover, Cinquefoil, &c. grows with good Succeſs in Northamptonſhire, and other Places of England.

In the Duke's Palace there is a Chamber of valuable Rarities, and a noble Library, of which the late Duke cauſed a Catalogue to be publiſhed of the Manuſcripts, that the Learned might know where to have Recourſe to them. The Perſon he employ'd to form it was Dr. Cyprianus, Eccleſiaſtical Counſellor and Aſſeſſor in the Conſiſtory of Gotha. They are for moſt Part the MSS of Eccleſiaſtical Authors, Ancient and Modern, eſpecially the latter. There is a great Number of Papers and Letters in the Latin and German Languages concerning *Luther*'s Reformation; and ſeveral MSS of the Vulgar *Tranſlation* of the Bible. There is a correcter Copy than that at Leipſic, of the Works of *Lactantius*; another of St. *Auſtin*'s Treatiſe of the *City of God*, which belong'd to Williſiſe Archbiſhop of Menta, about Anno 1000: Another of the ancient Capitalaries of the Kings of France, with the Salic Laws, and the Laws of the Lombards, Almains, &c. There are 31 Manuſcript Volumes, containing the Abridgments of the Lives of the Emperors of the Weſt, and of the Eaſt, their Pictures and Medals, and thoſe of their Families; the Whole collected in 1550 by James de Strada of Mantua. The Medals are very well deſigned; and Occo, the famous Antiquary, affirms, in a Letter quoted by M. Patin, that every Figure on them coſt a Crown the Engraving. There is a particular Manuſcript, which contains a Collection of Tracts by certain Greek Chymiſts, concerning the ſo-much-deſired *Art of making Gold*. For the reſt, we refer the Curious to the Catalogue itſelf, and ſhall paſs to

Altenbourg, the Capital of the County of that Name, of which the Duke of Saxe-Gotha is the Sovereign, and where he has a handſome Palace, where the Dutcheſs Dowager and the young Princeſſes were retired, at the Time that the Right Hon. the Lord Delawar arrived at Gotha, to receive the Princeſs Auguſta, and to conduct her to England, to be the happy Bride of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales. The Peaſants of this Country are ſaid to be the richeſt in all Germany, ſo that they may almoſt vie, for Subſtance, with thoſe of Holland, and like the Dutch too, they don't care to ſpoil the Breed, and ſcorn to match their Daughters to any but the Sons of wealthy Farmers.

LONDON.

A Mail arrived Yeſterday from France, *with an Account of the firſt Marks of Reſentment ſhewn by the Court of Spain, for the late Inſult on their Miniſters and Officers at Rome.*

The Spaniſh Miniſter at Paris has received Advice by an Extraordinary Courier, which was diſpatched from Madrid on the 20th of laſt Month, O. S. that his Catholick Majeſty has ordered the Pope's Inter-nuncio to retire to his Biſhoprick; that he has cauſed the Nunciature to be ſhut up, and ſent an Officer from Pampelona, to forbid the Nuncio Valenti Gonzagua, who was arrived at Bayonne, to ſet a Foot on the Territories of Spain. — His Catholick Majeſty has, at the ſame time, notified to the Cardinals Acquaviva and Belluga, and to all his own Subjects, and thoſe of the King of the Two Sicilies now at Rome, that 'tis his Pleaſure they ſhould forthwith depart that City, till he has received Satisfaction for the Inſult committed on the Palaces of Spain and the Farneſe Family.

Laſt Sunday Se'nnight a Tumult happened at Paris, upon this Occaſion: A poor Woman, who was begging Charity at the Church of the Fathers of the Oratory, perceiving the Beadles were in Purſuit of her, fled for Refuge to the Palace of Soiſſons, and the Mob riſing, pelted the Beadles with Stones; ſo that they were glad to call for the Aſſiſtance of the Guard at the Barrier of St. Honore, when ſeveral Piſtols were fired, by which one of the Prince of Carignan's Men, among others, was wounded; and nothing could appeaſe the Mob till the Officers that headed the Beadles was committed to Priſon.

Two of the French Eaſt India Company's Ships, viz. the Bourbon and Lys, are arrived at Port l'Orient, richly laden.

By the French King's late Order for reducing the Gendarmery, his Majeſty has reſolved to reduce 15 Men out of each of the 16 Companies; ſo that the 75 Men of which each Company now conſiſts, will be reduced to 60, excluſive of the Trumpets and Drums.

On the 5th Inſtant the Queen was happily delivered of a Princeſs.

On the 3d the Duke de Maine, who has been declining a long Time, departed this Life at his Caſtle of Sceaux, in the 67th Year of his Age.

Laſt Tueſday Morning between 6 and 7 o'Clock John Cotton, of New Bond-ſtreet, Eſq; going in his Coach and Four to Banbury, was attack'd between Shepherd's Buſh and Acton by two Highwaymen, who made Mr. Cotton get out of his Coach, and then rifled the Seats, and robbed him of a Silver Watch, and about 12 l. in Money.

Laſt Sunday George Patterſon, of High Wickham in the County of Bucks, Eſq; was marrid to Miſs Jane Oughton, Daughter of William Oughton of Holly Port in the County of Berks, Eſq; a Beautiful young Lady with a good Fortune.

Laſt Night the Corpſe of Sir Cecil Wray, Bart. after lying in State at his Houſe in Hanover-ſtreet, was carried from thence to Lincolnſhire, in order to be interred in the Vault of his Family.

Yeſterday Bank Stock was 147 5-8ths. India 174 3-4ths. South Sea 98. Old Annuity 111 1-4th. New ditto 111 1-4th. Three per Cent. Annuity 104 1-4th to 3-8ths. Emperor's Loan 116 1-4th. Royal Aſſurance 108 to 1-half. London-Aſſurance 14 1-8th. York Buildings 2. African 14. India Bonds 61. 4 s. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 5 l. 4 s. Prem. South Sea Bonds 5 l. 13 s. Prem. New Bank Circulation 7 l. to 2 s. 6 d. Premium. Salt Tallies 4 to 6 Premium. Engliſh Copper 2 l. 3 s. Prem. Welſh ditto, no Price. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 5 1-half per Cent. Premium. Million Bank 114.

This Day is Publiſhed,

[Price Six-Pence]

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Printed for T. Cooper at the Globe in Pater-noſter-Row.

This Day is Publiſhed,

(With his Majeſty's Royal Licence and Protection) containing Twenty Sheets. Pr. 3 s.

NUMB. XXXV.

(In which are included the Lives of Sir John Denham the Poet, Sir Kenelm Digby, Dodwell, Dr. John Donne, Dean of St. Paul's, and Thomas Sackville, the firſt Earl of Dorſet, Author of the Mirrour of Magiſtrates, and the Tragedy of Gorboduck.

Being the Eighth of the Fourth Volume of,

A GENERAL DICTIONARY, Hiſtorical and Critical; in which a new and accurate Tranſlation of that of the celebrated Mr. Bayle, with the Corrections and Obſervations printed in the late Edition at Paris, is included, and interſperſed with ſeveral thouſand Lives, never before publiſhed. The whole containing the Hiſtory of the moſt illuſtrious Perſons of all Ages and Nations, particularly thoſe of Great Britain and Ireland, diſtinguiſhed by their Rank, Actions, Learning, and other Accompliſhments; with Reflections on ſuch Paſſages of Mr. Bayle, as ſeem to favour Scepticiſm and the Manichee Syſtem.

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The Rev. Mr. THOMAS BIRCH,
Mr. LOCKMAN. *And other Hands.*

Printed for G. Strahan, J. Clarke, and T. Hatchett, in Cornhill; J. Gray in the Poultry; J. Batley, and J. Wood, in Pater-noſter-row; J. Bettenham; J. Shuckburgh, in Fleet-ſtreet; J. Wilcox, A. Millar, and E. Cave, T. Osborne, in Gray's-Inn; J. Brindley, in New Bond ſtreet; C. Ward and R. Chandler, in Fleet-ſtreet, and at their Shop in Scarborough; and ſold by J. Roberts, in Warwick-lane.

Of whom Propoſals for this Work may be had gratis.

N° XXXVI. to be publiſhed the firſt Thurſday in June, will finiſh the Fourth Volume, and contain among other new and curious Articles, the Lives of Dryden the Poet, Dugdale, Dr. John Echard, Laurence Echard the Hiſtorian, Lord Chancellor Egerton, and Evelyn.

N. B. The Delay of publiſhing this Number, was occaſion'd by the Holidays.

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PART II.

Begins with the Grand Revolution of Charlemain, and carries on the Royal and Princely Genealogies of Europe down to theſe Times; concluding with thoſe of the Britannick Iſles.

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N. B. There is in this Book the Genealogy of the Princeſs of Saxe Gotha's Family.

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Note, theſe Pills will be readily ſent by the Poſt to any Part of England, if you ſend your Money, in a Letter or by the Stage Coaches or Waggons.

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Attendance is given every Day by the Author, a graduate Phyſician, who liveth at the Blue Ball in Hand-court, over-againſt Great Turnſtile, Holborn.

Advice GRATIS.

LONDON: Printed for T. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Pater-noſter-Row.*